

Amendment for Serial No. 09/490,201

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REMARKS

Claims 1-6, 8-29 and 31 remain in the application, claims 7 and 30 having been cancelled by amendment. Claims 1, 6, 8, 11, 13, 14, 15, 19, 29, and 31 have been amended as set forth in the attached Appendix. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested. Claims 1-31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. The claims have been amended to address this rejection and are believed to be in compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 112. Claims 6, 9-12 and 29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § §102(f) and 103. The limitations of allowable claim 7 have been incorporated into claim 6. Therefore, claim 6, and its dependent claims 9-12 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Similarly, the limitations of allowable claim 30 have been incorporated into claim 29. Therefore, claim 29 is also believed to be in condition for allowance.

No fees are believed to be due in connection with this submission. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 13-0017.

Respectfully submitted,


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APPENDIX
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 7 and 30.

1. (Once Amended) [A] An afterset housing for providing access to an underfloor electrical distribution system of the type comprising at least one raceway panel embedded in a concrete floor, the afterset comprising:

a preset housing defining having an interior compartment generally defined by a bottom wall and a sidewall, the preset housing be normally adapted for connection to [the] said at least one raceway panel prior to pouring of the concrete floor; and

an adapter connectable to the preset housing and being constructed to reconfiguring the preset housing for use as [an] said afterset housing which is adapted for connection to [the] said at least one raceway panel following pouring of the concrete floor.

6. (Once Amended) An afterset housing for providing access to an underfloor electrical distribution system of the type comprising at least one raceway panel embedded in a concrete floor, [the] said at least one raceway panel having an interior passage defined by a top wall, a bottom wall and a pair of side walls, the afterset being configured for connection to the raceway panels by removing the concrete above [the] said at least one raceway panel, cutting a hole in [the] said at least one raceway panel, and securing the housing in the hole in the raceway, the afterset comprising:

a housing adapted for connection to the top wall of [the] said at least one raceway, the housing having an interior compartment generally defined by a bottom wall and an upwardly

extending sidewall, the sidewall being adapted to receive an activation assembly, the bottom wall including an aperture adapted for alignment with the aperture formed in the top wall of the raceway panel to provide access to services that are carried by the raceway; and

means for ganging at least two of the [adapter] housings together to form an integral assembly, said ganging means comprising at least one alignment clip being adapted to slidably engage with a pair of adapter housings to form an integral assembly.

8. (Once Amended) An afterset housing as set forth in claim [7] 6, wherein said ganging means further comprises at least one ganging tab formed on the exterior of each afterset housing, the ganging tabs being configured to receive the alignment clip.

11. (Once Amended) An afterset as set forth in claim 6, further comprises at least one locking tab adapted to secure the afterset to the top wall of [the] said at least one raceway panel.

13. (Once Amended) An underfloor electrical distribution system for placement in a concrete floor comprising:

[a pair of] first and second raceway panels extending generally parallel to each other within the concrete floor, each raceway panel having a top wall, a bottom wall and a pair of side walls defining an interior passage;

a plurality of afterset housings, each housing being configured for connection to [the] one of said first and second raceway panels by removing the concrete above the respective raceway panel, cutting a hole in the respective raceway panel, and securing the afterset housing in the hole in the respective raceway panel; and

a plurality of alignment clips, each clip being adapted to secure two of the afterset housings together to form an integral afterset assembly.

14. (Once Amended) An underfloor electrical distribution system as set forth in claim 13, wherein the [adapter] alignment clips are adapted to slidably engage with the afterset housings.

15. (Once Amended) An underfloor electrical distribution system as set forth in claim 13, wherein each afterset housing [having] has an interior compartment generally defined by a bottom wall and an upwardly extending sidewall, the bottom wall including an aperture that aligns with the opening formed in the top wall of [the] a raceway panel when the adapter is connected thereto to provide access to services that are carried by the raceway panel.

19. (Once Amended) An underfloor electrical distribution system for placement in a concrete floor comprising:

a pair of raceway panels adapted to be positioned on a subfloor prior to pouring of the concrete floor, each raceway panel defining an interior passage and a plurality of preset openings that provide access to the interior passage;

a plurality of preset housings mountable in the preset openings and to provide access to the interior passage of [the] said pair of raceway panels from an upper surface of the concrete floor; and

a plurality of alignment clips, each alignment clip being adapted to secure and align a preset housing carried by a first of the raceway panels with a second preset housing carried by a second of the raceway panels.

29. (Once Amended) A preset for providing access to an underfloor electrical distribution system, the underfloor electrical distribution system comprising at least one raceway panel adapted to be positioned in a concrete floor, the raceway panel defining an interior passage adapted to carry service cables and having an exterior wall defining [a] preset openings that provide[s] access to the interior passage, the preset comprising:

a housing[s] mountable in the preset opening[s] and to provide access to the interior passage of the raceway from an upper surface of the concrete floor; and

ganging means for ganging at least two of the housings together to form an integral assembly, said ganging means comprising at least one adapter clip configured to slidably engage with a pair of preset housings to form an integral assembly.

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31. (Once Amended) A preset housing as set forth in claim [30] 29, wherein said ganging means further comprises at least one ganging tab formed on the exterior of each afterset housing, the ganging tabs being configured to slidably engage with the adapter clips.

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